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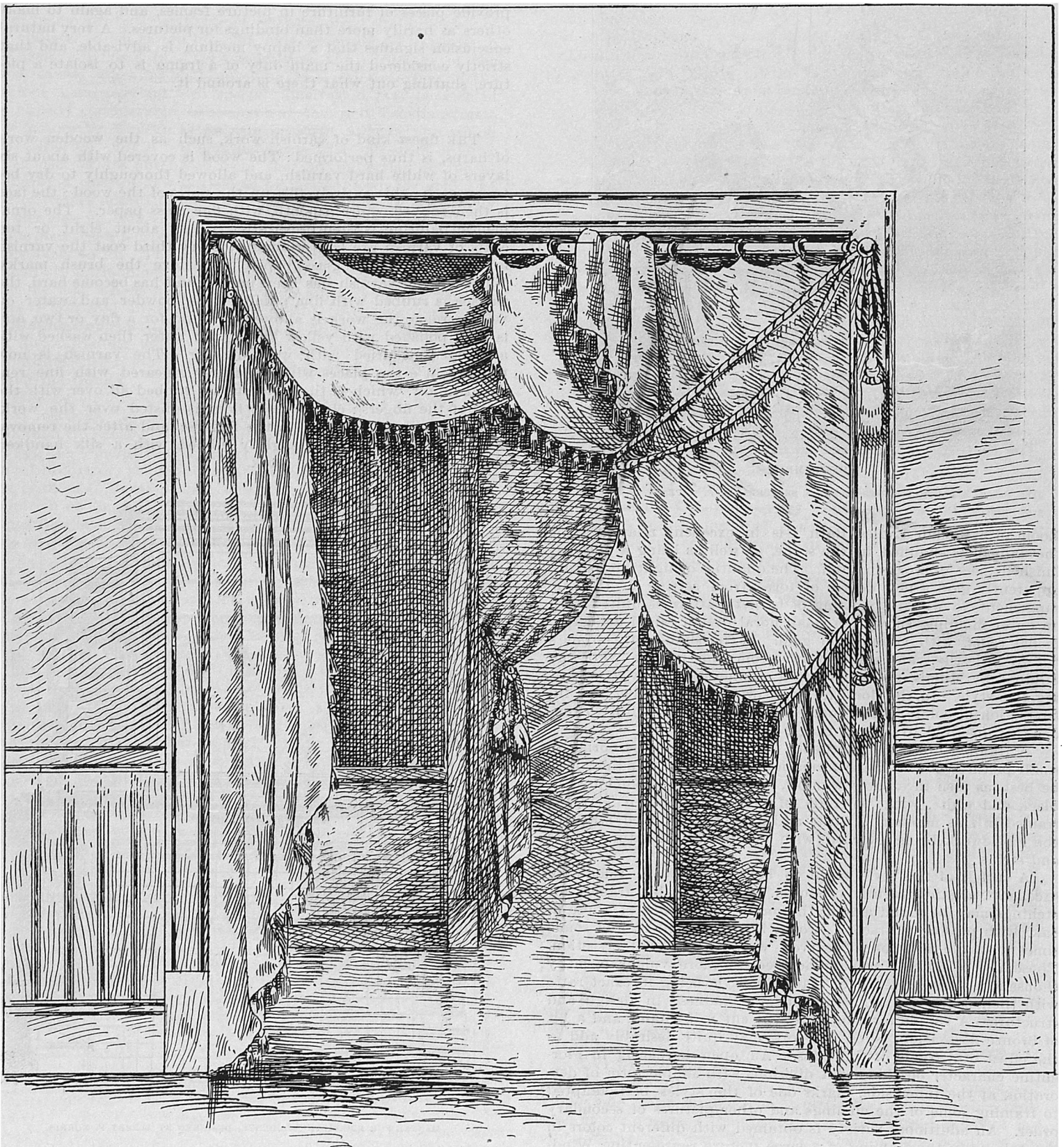
THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

FANCIES OF THE HOUR.

AMONG dinner table gongs, is one representing a drum, on which a bronze gilt clown stands on his hands; bursting through the skin of the drum are the head and shoulders of another clown, the hands and feet protruding at the side. The gong is struck by direct pressure on an ebony knob behind. A further conceit is to shape the dinner table bell as a steel wire trap, the instrument lying within, whilst above the trap appears the figure of a watchful fox, the turning of which rouses a succession of cadences. The most elaborate and minute painting appears in the thin porcelain cups and saucers embedded in silk lined cases. Candlesticks in silver gilt, bronze and brass have for their base twining serpents in nickel; figures in oxydized silver, such as boys and girls playing on musical instruments, are utilized as supports or handles of tray. Notes representing snatches of song appear on flowing scrolls of nickel as portions of inkstands, card cases in brass, nickel or silver gilt, with fanciful raised designs on front panels forming the centre piece. In another of silver gilt and nickel, the base is supported by flying dragons. Card cases in brass have panels of relief work, mounted with chimeras, cupids, etc. Small marble and alabaster vessels for boudoir trinkets contrast their cold beauty

with silver gilt mounting; covers of these are topped with gilded busts. Behind one inkstand rises a shield form in rich deep brown, with red beads at the intersections of the depressed diapered diamond lines, steel swords crossed passing behind. Among mantel ornaments in colored porcelain is a group of decayed branches on which a covey of beautifully executed humming birds have alighted. A smoker's etagere has for its type a billiard table, even to the green cloth. The "pocket" for holding tobacco is a leather turkish bag; the cigar holder is a miniature imitative ivory ostrich shell, mounted on three billiard balls, red, white and blue; the match box is itself a hollow ball.

PAINTINGS that have been injured by contraction of the coats, and the varnish of which is traversed by fine cracks that render the picture indistinct, are restored in the following manner: A vessel filled with alcohol is gently warmed and air blown through it. The air is thus impregnated with alcoholic vapor, and is conducted through a tube directly upon the picture. The ascending vapor condenses on the surface of the picture and render the parts to a slight degree soluble, so that the parts flow together and the flaws disappear.



SUGGESTION FOR DOUBLE DOOR DRAPERY, BY J. R. HENDERSON, OF ECHLESINGER & MAYER, CHICAGO.